AGENDA DATE: 3/21/02 AGENDA ITEM: LATE STARTER



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

IN THE MATTER OF THE BOARD'S)	ORDER EXTENDING TIME FOR
REVIEW OF UNBUNDLED NETWORK)	MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION
ELEMENTS RATES, TERMS AND)	
CONDITIONS OF BELL ATLANTIC-)	DOCKET NO. TO00060356
NEW JERSEY, INC.)	

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

A Summary Order in this matter was issued by the Board of Public Utilities (Board) on December 17, 2001 memorializing the decision of the Board at its public agenda meeting of November 20, 2001. At that meeting, the Board established certain rates for the lease of the unbundled network elements (UNEs) of Verizon New Jersey Inc. (VNJ)¹, adopted modified inputs and assumptions used in certain cost models to calculate VNJ's recurring and non-recurring UNE rates, and established the terms and conditions under which certain advanced services, such as digital subscriber line (DSL) service, would be made available by VNJ to competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs).

On March 6, 2002, the Board issued its Final Order in this matter. Because the decisions contained in the Summary and Final Orders reflected the Board's consideration of a complex and voluminous record², the Board's Final Order, with attachments, was over 285 pages in length.

On March 15, 2002, AT&T Communications of NJ, L.P. (AT&T), one of the active parties to this matter, filed a motion to extend the time for reconsideration from March 22, 2001 until April 3, 2001. AT&T requested that the motion be considered by the Board at its next public agenda meeting, March 21, 2002, the only scheduled agenda meeting subsequent to the Board's release of its UNE Final Order and prior to the end of the allotted time for filing motions for reconsideration of the Final Order. AT&T noted that it had received a copy of the Final Order on March 7, 2002, and explained that the time

¹ Bell Atlantic Corporation, parent of Bell Atlantic-New Jersey, Inc., became Verizon Communications Inc., parent of Verizon New Jersey Inc., following its merger with GTE Corporation on June 30, 2000.

The factual record in this matter was developed during evidentiary proceedings that included 17 days of hearings over fifteen weeks, 26 expert witnesses, over 265 exhibits and over 3,900 pages of transcripts. The positions of the parties with regard to this record were incorporated into extensive briefs and reply briefs submitted on June 18, 2001 and July 13, 2001, respectively.

provided for the filing of motions for reconsideration, 15 days,³ was insufficient in this instance considering the complexity of the matter, the number of issues considered and ruled upon by the Board, the length of the Board's Final Order, and the importance of the matter.

Counsel for Verizon New Jersey Inc. has advised that it would not oppose the motion.

Having considered the merits of the arguments raised by AT&T in support of its request for more time, and being mindful of the importance of this matter for the development of local exchange competition in New Jersey, the Board <u>FINDS</u> that an extension of time to file requests for reconsideration is warranted. Therefore, the Board <u>HEREBY GRANTS</u> the motion of AT&T for additional time. Accordingly, motions for reconsideration of the Board's Final Order dated March 6, 2002, filed by any party to this proceeding, will be deemed timely if filed on or before April 3, 2002.

DATED: 3/22/02

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:

(signed) JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT

(signed)
FREDERICK F. BUTLER
COMMISSIONER

(signed) CAROL J. MURPHY COMMISSIONER

(signed)
CONNIE O. HUGHES
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

(signed)
REGINALD D. JOHNSON
ACTING BOARD SECRETARY

^{3 &}lt;u>See N.J.A.C</u>. 14: 1-8.6(a).